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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE MASTERING OF MEXICO. Told After One of the Conquistadores and various of his Interpreters. By Kate Stephens, author of "The Greek Spirit," "Workfellows in Social Progression," etc. [Illustrated]. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1916, pp. XI, 335.

The descriptive printing on the "jacket" of the book does it an injustice as it would be inferred that, to some extent, it was a work of fiction. This is not the fact as it is a very readable condensed translation of the narrative of Bernal Diaz del Castillo, the companion of Cortez. No fiction is needed to enhance the thrilling interest of this account of the conquest of Mexico by one who was an active participant. Its statements are facts, yet it reads like some romance of almost incredible adventure. Such a book would find a large audience at any time, but it comes at a particularly apt moment.

THE GREAT REVIVAL IN THE WEST, 1797-1805. By Catharine C. Cleveland. University of Chicago Press 1916, pp. VI, 215.

We cannot do better in treating of this valuable book than use Dr. Dodd's words in his introduction: "In this story of the Great Revival in the West, Miss Cleveland has shown clearly the religious 'destitution' of the frontier, the craving of men for excitement, and the effect of powerful emotional appeals upon the minds of simple folk far removed from the main currents of contemporary civilization. The author certainly presents in the following pages, the best, and I believe, the only scientific account of this important movement. The result is a distinct and positive contribution to our knowledge of the social and moral conditions of primitive life in America."

This great revival, with its strange accompanying phenomena, and its great effect on the spiritual condition and the morals and habits of the people is well worth the attention of every student of American history. A good bibliography adds to the value of the book.

NATIONALITY IN MODERN HISTORY, By J. Holland Rose, L. H. D., Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge [&c. &c.] New York. The Macmillan Company 1916, pp. XI, 202.

"The varied manifestations of nationality among the chief European nations are studied in this book. The author, one of the ablest of modern historians, has supplied, in effect, the background of the conflict in

Europe, contributing largely to a clearer understanding of those factors which made for war. Beginning with a discussion of the dawn of the national idea, he takes up in turn the growth of that idea in France, Germany, Spain, Italy and the Slavic Kingdoms, concluding with a consideration of The German Theory of the State, Nationality and Militarism, Nationality since 1855 and Internationalism."

A HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL from its Foundation through the Period of the Adoption of the Organic Act. By Wilhelmus Bogart Bryan. Vol. II, 1815-1878. New York, The Macmillan Company 1916, pp. XVI, 707.

The second volume of this valuable work maintains the high standard of the first.

RICHMOND COLLEGE HISTORICAL PAPERS. Vol. I, No. 2, June 1916, Virginia Loyalists 1775-1783 and Essays on the Presidential Election of 1850 in Virginia, Andrew Stevenson, and the Campaign of 1855 in Virginia and the Fall of the Know-Nothing Party with Important Historical Documents. Edited by D. R. Anderson, Ph. D. Head of the Department of History and Political Science. Published annually. Price \$1.00. For copies address the Editor, Richmond College, Va., Richmond, Va., 1916, pp. 182.

Richmond College (and it should be added, Randolph-Macon) is doing a most valuable work in studying the Revolutionary and post Revolutionary history of Virginia. These studies were begun not long ago and have already produced results of importance. In the present instalment the papers, as they appear, are by John A. George, M. A., a young man of marked talent whose death is much lamented; Margaret K. Monteteiro, B. A.; Eugene N. Gardner, M. A., and Constance M. Gay, B. A. It is a pleasant thing for believers in the higher education of women to see what serious and scholarly work the young ladies of Westhampton College are doing. At the end of the historical studies is published a collection of petitions and letters to the Virginia Conventions and Legislatures 1775-1783 asking redress for various grievances.

As has been said all the papers are valuable; but our space will admit detailed notice, even briefly, of only one. Mr. George's paper on the Virginia Loyalists 1775-83 presents the recent view of the subject in opposition to that formerly held, as a mere matter of belief without much investigation, that they were few in number. In his carefully studied and very interesting paper the author certainly shows the presence of a considerable Loyalist element; but in such things numbers are not all. One cannot help feeling that the large Loyalist element in Virginia (like some other historical discoveries) is a historian's party rather than a real vital fact. Theoretically the Loyalists should have been of considerable importance—really they mattered but little. There were two classes of Loyalists whose position was creditable. People